

**FAUQUIER COUNTY
PURCHASE OF DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS COMMITTEE
MEETING**

December 13, 2005

8:30 AM

Fauquier County Extension Office, 24 Pelham Street, Warrenton, VA 20186

MINUTES

Committee Members Present:

John Schied, Chairman
Ike Broaddus, Vice Chairman
Leslie Grayson
Don Huffman

Committee Members Absent:

Roger Martella

Others Present:

Ray Pickering, Agricultural Development Officer
Scottie Heffner, PDR Program Assistant

1. Call to Order
 - a. Chairman Schied called the meeting to order.
2. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Ike Broaddus moved to approve the September 27, 2005 and the November 22, 2005 Minutes as dispersed. Don Huffman seconded and the motion carried.
3. Discuss recommendations for future application rounds
 - a. The Committee discussed adding language to the application form and criteria regarding easements "pending consideration". This is intended to provide facts about the property and to circumvent the possibility of different conservation entities competing for properties under consideration. The requirement remains that there be no *pre-existing* easement in place.
 - b. The Committee discussed procedures for considering possible joint easement purchases. It was agreed to develop a draft of procedures for co-holding with other conservation entities. An applicant whose easement is to be co-held with another conservation organization would need to meet the same requirements as any applicant and the Committee would follow the same procedures for co-held easements as for those that are not co-held.

4. Status of Contributions and Grants

- a. On December 1, 2005, Fauquier County received a \$50,000 contribution from Dominion Virginia Power for the Purchase of Development Rights program.
- b. Also on December 1, 2005, the Board of Trustees of the Virginia Land Conservation Fund (VLCF) awarded Fauquier County's PDR Program \$213,500 as reimbursement of part of the cost of the Rebecca George easement. This was the second time the PDR program submitted an application to VLCF's grant program. In this round, there were sixteen applicants. Fauquier received the top ranking of the six grants awarded in the Farmland and Forest category.

5. Review of Current Applicants

- a. Committee Members received maps, application summary reports and ranking sheets to review and rank the current applicant farms held by:
 - i. Kenneth Smith's Cool Lawn Farms, L.L.C.
 - ii. Walter R. Green
 - iii. David Burton, Jr.'s Hi Hope Farm, LLC
 - iv. Victor M. and Rosa Hacker
 - v. John D. Nissley's Still Waters Farm, LLC

6. Site Visit to Applicant Properties

- a. Committee Members visited the applicant properties in the following order (Still Waters Farm had been visited and ranked by the Committee on November 22, 2005):
 - i. Victor M. and Rosa Hacker
 - ii. Cool Lawn Farms, L.L.C.
 - iii. Hi Hope Farm, LLC
 - iv. Walter R. Green

7. Ranking of Applicant Properties

- a. The Committee scored the applicant properties according to the weighted ranking system.

8. Adjourn

- a. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.